

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A safety coupling apparatus comprising
  - a first coupling part for fixed coaction with a shaft or axle for ~~accepting~~transferring a torque and rotary movement,
  - a second coupling part for fixed coaction with a shaft or axle for ~~delivering~~transferring a torque and rotational movement, and
  - a safety unit as said first coupling part and which is adapted to take one of two settings, a first expanded setting in which torque and rotary movement is transferred between said first and second coupling parts and a second setting in which no torque and rotational movement is transferred between said first and second coupling parts, said safety unit including an expandable subpart that can take said first and expanded setting as a result of an expansion caused by applying pressure to a cavity within the safety unit and enclosing said pressure in said cavity, and is able to take its second setting byas a result of an evacuatingevacuation of said pressure from said cavity, wherein one of said first coupling part, and said second coupling part is formed with ~~includes~~ a generally axially-directed groove which surrounds a pressure expandable subpart in said ~~safety unit~~first coupling part and essentially the whole of said cavity, and wherein said expandable subpart, when in its first setting, functions to allow torque to be transferred directly to said first coupling part or said second coupling part via two mutually opposing

surface parts which are frictionally active against opposing outer parts of the axially-directed groove, wherein said first coupling part includes two axially-directed projections each adapted for coaction with a respective said groove in the second coupling part, and are shorter than said cavity, wherein the expandable part is formed as an end locking means, and ~~said locking means provides two axially directed edges,~~ wherein said second coupling part includes a collar which is essentially centered with respect to said axially-directed groove, said collar is integrated with said second coupling part, and an outer radial groove formed between a flange and said collar, said flange belonging to said second coupling part.

2-4. **(Cancel)**

5. **(Currently Amended)** The apparatus according to Claim 4~~1~~, wherein a thin material section is formed in said one of said first and second coupling parts between said outer radial groove and said axially-directed groove of said safety unit.

6. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein said thin material section is elastically resilient.

7. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said safety unit is integrated with and constitutes said first coupling part or said second coupling part and includes a flange for fixed coaction with a torque transferring shaft connected to the safety coupling.

8. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus according to Claim 1, including a pressure medium filling nipple which extends radially out from the safety unit and is positioned in connection with said first and second coupling parts and its collar.

9. **(Currently Amended)** The apparatus according to Claim 8, including a device which is fixed in relation to said collar, which coacts with said filling nipple such that a small relative movement between said first coupling part and said second coupling part and said safety unit movement will cause the filling nipple to shear for a rapid evacuation of said pressure.

10. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus according to Claim 1, including a first ball bearing ring placed at the bottom of the safety unit groove for coaction between said safety unit and said groove.

11. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus according to Claim 10, including a second ball bearing ring placed adjacent an opening of said safety unit groove for coaction between the safety unit and said groove.

12. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said generally axially-directed groove has a conical cross-sectional shape with a widest part facing towards an adjacent part.

13. **(Currently Amended)** The apparatus according to Claim 12, wherein a cross-sectional shape of said subpart and its sections has a corresponding conical shape.

14. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus according to Claim 13, wherein said generally axially-directed groove and said corresponding sections have a stepped cross-sectional shape with a widest part facing towards an adjacent part.

15. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein free end portions of material sections or legs forming said axially-directed groove are coordinated with locking means provided there between and adapted to prevent any divergence of said free end portions when the safety unit, together with its associated subpart or body, takes its first and expanding setting.

16. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said first coupling part and said second coupling part are mutually adapted to include mutually overlapping and coordinated cylindrical subsections on a respective side of an axially-directed groove .

17. **(Canceled)**

18. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein said edges are related peripherally to said first coupling part, and wherein said groove is formed peripherally in said second coupling part.

19. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein said subsection is adapted for torque transmission via axially orientated and cylindrical outer sections.

20. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus according to Claim 19, wherein a length of said outer sections and a normal pressure dependent on the chosen expansion of the expandable subpart are adapted for a torque transfer of between 10 and 30% of the total torque transferred between said coupling parts.

21. **(Previously Presented )** The apparatus according to Claim 20, wherein the chosen torque transfer is adapted to between 15 and 25%.

22. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus according to Claim 20, wherein the generally axially-directed groove has a length of more than 50% of the length of said expandable subpart.

23. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus according to Claim 22, wherein said length is adapted to be less than 80% of the axial length of said expandable subpart.

24. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein said overlapping subsections have essentially the same radial thicknesses.

25. **(Currently Amended)** The apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein with regard to the overlapping subsections, the outer subsection has a greater thickness than a thickness of the inner.

26. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein the first coupling part is formed to function as a locking means

against expansion of the free end portions of the legs forming said groove in the second coupling part.

27. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus according to Claim 26, wherein the legs forming said groove have essentially the same material thickness.

28. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein a radius difference between the mutually opposing cylindrical outer parts of the groove is smaller or essentially equal to a total radial thickness of said free end portions or legs.